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WARE FRESSOLA VAN DER SLUYS &
ADOLPHSON, LLP
BRADFORD GREEN BUILDING 5
755 MAIN STREET, P O BOX 224
MONROE, CT 06468

EXAMINER

PHAM, TUAN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2618

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/990,133

Applicant(s)

BOMAN ET AL.

Examiner

TUAN A. PHAM

Art Unit

2618

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 February 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-21 and 25-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10-21 and 25-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-8, 10-21, and 25-27 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

In response to applicant's remark on pages 7-8, Applicant argues that there is no motivation to combine of Hawkins's reference and Nilsson's reference.

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). The test for obviousness is not whether the features of a secondary reference may be bodily incorporated into the structure of the primary reference; nor is it that the claimed invention must be expressly suggested in any one or all of the reference. Rather, the test is what the combined teaching of the references would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art. In this case the motivation that in order to make the cellular phone in the form of small and inexpensive as suggested by Nilsson at column 2, lines 23-26.

In response to applicant's remark on pages 6-7, Applicant argues that Hawkins does not teaches unitary body and open end for insert the electronic component.

In response to applicant's arguments as stated above, the Examiner respectfully disagrees with the Applicant's argument. Hawkins teaches a unitary body (see figure 3A) and the lower portion 380 of the cellular element 350 is fits into the void 320 of the body of the organizer or the void 320 is also designed to receive an extra element for insert thereto (see figure 3A, col.3, ln.55-62). Furthermore, the examiner would like to invite the applicant to amend the claim more clearly and specific as did argues by applicant in the remark, in pages 6-7. Therefore, the teaching of Hawkins et al. reference still read on.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-4, 6-7, 17-18, and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al. (U.S. patent No.: 6,516,202, hereinafter, "Hawkins") in view of Nilsson (U.S. Patent No.: 6,400,967), and further in view of Taylor et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0025679, hereinafter, "Taylor").

Regarding claims 1, 17, and 25, Hawkins teaches a method and a housing for an electronic device comprising a unitary body having an open end for insertion of electronic components therein (see figure 3A, void 320 for insert a cellular component 350, the void 320 is also designed to receive an extra element for insert thereto, col.2, ln.20-55, col.3, ln.5-67), and wherein the body includes a plurality of apertures in one face to receive the keys mounted on an inner wall of the body (see figure 3A, housing of organizer 300 is having a plurality of apertures to receive the keypad 315, col.2, ln.47-67), and an opening in the other face opposite the apertures to receive a battery pack (see figure 3b, back of housing's organizer 300 is having a space for battery), wherein the electronic component are substantially housed by the unitary body upon insertion (see figure 3A, the cellular 350 is substantially insert into the void 320, col.3, ln.48-63).

It should be noticed that Hawkins fails to teach a tubular body. However, Nilsson teaches such features (see figure 1, tubular housing 3, col.5, ln.29-31).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Nilsson, into view of Hawkins in order to make the cellular phone in the form of small and inexpensive as suggested by Nilsson at column 2, lines 23-26.

Hawkins and Nilsson, in combination, fails to teach plurality of apertures for receiving keys of keymat. However, Taylor teaches such features (see col.3, [0044]).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Taylor into view of Hawkins and Nilsson in order to activate the key when pressing as suggested by Taylor at [0007].

Regarding claim 2, Hawkins further teaches a housing including a member for closing the open end of the tubular body (see figure 3A, cellular component 350 for closing the void 320 of the organizer 300).

Regarding claim 3, Hawkins further teaches a housing wherein the member is configured to support electronic components thereon (see figure 3A, indicator 360, col.3, ln.49-55).

Regarding claim 4, Hawkins further teaches a housing wherein the member includes a support for locating and retaining a printed circuit board thereon (see figure 4, phone hardware 440 it is included all the component such as DSP that lay out on the PCB within the housing).

Regarding claim 6, Hawkins further teaches a housing wherein a portion of the inner peripheral wall of the member includes a recess to receive a transducer module (see figure 3a, speaker 365).

Regarding claim 7, Hawkins further teaches a housing including a guide on the body to receive and support electronic components mounted on the member (see figure 3A, void 320 have a guide for insert the cellular component 350).

Regarding claim 18, Hawkins further teaches mobile telecommunication device (see figure 1).

Regarding claim 26, Hawkins further teaches a method wherein the housing is extruded (see figure 3A).

Regarding claim 27, Hawkins further teaches a method wherein the housing is formed from sheet metal. It is obvious the housing can be used with any material.

4. Claims 5, 8, 10-16, and 19-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al. (U.S. patent No.: 6,516,202, hereinafter, "Hawkins") in view of Nilsson (U.S. Patent No.: 6,400,967), and further in view of Taylor et al. (Pub. No.: US 2003/0025679, hereinafter, "Taylor") as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kubo (U.S. Patent No.: 6,580,923).

Regarding claim 5, Hawkins, Nilsson, and Taylor, in combination, fails to teach a housing wherein the support includes an integrally moulded clip to receive the edge of a printed circuit board and a location spigot to support the underside thereof. However, Kubo teaches such features (see figure 3, it is obvious the housing portion 32 should be included a moulded clip to support the PCB 36 within the housing).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teaching of Kubo, into view of Hawkins, Nilsson, and Taylor in order to make the cellular phone in the form of small and inexpensive as suggested by Nilsson at column 2, lines 23-26.

Regarding claim 8, Kubo further teaches a rail (see col.5, ln.65).

Regarding claim 10, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein the body includes means to releasably secure a keymat retaining plate over the keymat (see figure 3, key group sheet 31, col.4, ln.46-55).

Regarding claim 11, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein the means comprises an integrally formed tab on the body for location of the retaining plate there under (see figure 3, key group sheet 31, col.4, ln.46-55).

Regarding claim 12, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein the retaining plate (i.e., flexible printed circuit board) is formed from a resilient flexible material and is a snap fit beneath the integrally formed tab on the body (see figure 3, col.7, ln.62-67).

Regarding claim 13, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein a portion of the body overlaps the member, the body and member including co-operating parts (i.e., handle) to mount the member on the body (see figure 4, handle 52c-3, col.6, ln.30-52).

Regarding claim 14, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein the co-operating parts includes a flange on the member that forms an interference fit with the body (see figure 6, 52b-2, col.6, ln.19-27).

Regarding claim 15, Nilsson further teaches a housing a lock for releasable securing the member mounted to the body (see col.5, ln.40-50).

Regarding claim 16, Nilsson further teaches a housing wherein said lock includes an aperture in the member and a boss in the body, fastening means being insertable through the aperture for location in the boss (see col.5, ln.40-50).

Regarding claim 19, Kubo further teaches a housing including a key mat, a key mat retaining plate and a battery pack, the retaining plate being configured such that the

key mat is biased against the housing by the retaining plate when the battery pack is mounted in the housing (see figure 3, col.4, ln.46-67).

Regarding claim 20, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein the retaining plate includes resiliently deformable regions raised out of the plane of the plate, said regions being deflected back towards the plane of the plate by the battery pack mounted in the housing, thereby biasing the key mat against the housing (see figure 6, col.6, ln.1-26).

Regarding claim 21, Kubo further teaches a housing wherein the resiliently deformable regions are a plurality of spaced parallel ribs (see figure 3, col.6, ln.1-27).

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan A. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-8097. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM-5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Anderson can be reached on (571) 272-4177. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have question on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Art Unit 2643
April 3, 2006
Examiner

Tuan Pham



Matthew Anderson
SPE 2618